Amendments to the Claim:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A recombinant, prototrophic micro-organism exhibiting an increased level of galactose uptake rate when cultured on a nutrient source providing galactose, said micro-organism being a ~~yeast or other fungi~~ *Saccaromyces cerevisiae* having the ability to grow on minimal medium and over expressing PGM2, which is an enzyme catalysing the conversion of glucose-1 phosphate to glucose-6 phosphate in the galactose uptake and metabolism pathway, compared to a reference micro-organism having a native level of expression of said enzyme and from which the recombinant micro-organism is derived, wherein said over expression of said enzyme is due to said micro-organism having multiple copies of a gene coding for said enzyme or is due to a gene coding for said enzyme being under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced and which is not natively associated with said gene.

2-3 (cancelled).

4 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, wherein said enzyme is expressed in the micro-organism at a level which is 1.5 or more times that of said reference micro-organism.

5 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, having multiple copies of a gene coding for said enzyme.

6 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, wherein a gene coding for said enzyme is under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced and which is not natively associated with said gene, leading to over expression of said enzyme.

7-8 (cancelled).

9 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, which exhibits an increase of maximum specific galactose uptake rate of at least 10% in comparison to the maximum specific

galactose uptake rate in said reference micro-organism.

10 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, which exhibits an increase of said enzyme expression of at least 2 fold in comparison to the enzyme expression in said reference micro-organism.

11 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 1, which exhibits an increased maximum specific ethanol production rate compared to the maximum specific ethanol production rate in said reference micro-organism.

12 (previously presented). The micro-organism of claim 10, wherein said specific ethanol production rate is increased by at least a factor of 1.5 relative to the rate in said reference microorganism.

13-14 (cancelled).

15 (withdrawn- currently amended). A method of ethanol production, lactic acid production, or citric acid production, comprising growing a micro-organism on a galactose containing nutrient source to produce ethanol as a metabolite, wherein said micro-organism is a recombinant, prototrophic micro-organism according to claim 1, ~~exhibiting an increased level of galactose uptake rate when cultured on a nutrient source providing galactose, said micro-organism being a yeast or other fungi having the ability to grow on minimal medium and over expressing PGM2, which is an enzyme catalysing the conversion of glucose-1 phosphate to glucose-6 phosphate in the galactose uptake and metabolism pathway, compared to a reference micro-organism having a native level of expression of said enzyme and from which the recombinant micro-organism is derived, wherein said over expression of said enzyme is due to said micro-organism having multiple copies of a gene coding for said enzyme or is due to a gene coding for the said enzyme being under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced and which is not natively associated with said gene,~~ and recovering ethanol, lactic acid, or citric acid therefrom.

16 (cancelled).

17 (withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein said enzyme activity is expressed in the micro-organism at a level which is 1.5 or more times the level of said enzyme activity in said reference micro-organism.

18-20 (cancelled).

21 (withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein the micro-organism exhibits an increase of maximum specific galactose uptake rate of at least 10% in comparison to said reference micro-organism.

22 (withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein the micro-organism exhibits an increase of said enzyme activity of at least 2 fold in comparison to said enzyme activity in said reference micro-organism.

23 (withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein the micro-organism exhibits an increased maximum specific ethanol production rate compared to said rate in said reference micro-organism.

24 (withdrawn). The method of claim 23, wherein said ethanol production rate is increased by at least a factor of 1.5.

25 (withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein said nutrient source comprises lactose or raffinose.

26 (new). A recombinant, prototrophic micro-organism exhibiting an increased level of galactose uptake rate when cultured on a nutrient source providing galactose, said micro-organism being a *Saccaromyces cerevisiae* having the ability to grow on minimal medium and over expressing an enzyme which is PGM2, or a mutant thereof which is an enzyme catalysing the conversion of glucose-1 phosphate to glucose-6 phosphate in the galactose uptake and metabolism pathway, compared to a reference micro-organism having a native level of expression of said enzyme and from which the recombinant micro-organism is derived, wherein said over expression of said enzyme is due to said micro-organism having multiple copies of a gene coding for said enzyme or is due to a gene coding for said enzyme being under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced

and which is not natively associated with said gene.